

## Friends of the National Wildlife Refuges of Rhode Island





## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Summer 2015 Wildlife Wednesdays Lecture Series

**June 17th (Kettle Pond):** "Whales and Dophins Facing a Changing Climate," with Tara Stevens, marine biologist, killer whale specialist, and author of *Whales and Dolphins of Atlantic Canada & Northeast United States*. Tara will introduce the diversity of whales and dolphins in the Northwest Atlantic, then discuss the potential effects that our changing climate might bring for their populations. She will also be signing copies of her book for anyone interested.





**June 24th (Sachuest Point):** "An Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation in Rhode Island," with Dr. Chi Chan, a veterinarian and Vice President of the Wildlife Rehabilitators Association of R.I. Dr. Chan has educated and entertained our audiences before, but this will be the first time at Sachuest. She will talk about what wildlife rehabilitation is (and isn't), share some interesting cases, and discuss how to become a wildlife rehabilitator.

July 1st (Kettle): "The Most Disgusting Fish in the Sea," with Dr. Bob Kenney, a naturalist and marine biologist from the URI Graduate School of Oceanography. Back by popular demand (no kidding ... people have really asked to hear this again!), he will share information on the little-known, scientifically important, under-appreciated, and, yes, truly disgusting hagfish or "slime eel."



July 8th (Kettle): "Wet, Salty, Slippery, and Sometimes Squirmy," with Jill Johnen, a marine biologist and marine educator. Jill has a special talent for talking with kids, and hasn't been in our line-up since 2012. Her hands-on presentation will introduce us to some of the plants and animals we can find along our shorelines. Bring the kids and sit in the front row.

**July 15th (Kettle):** "Rediscovering the Diamondback Terrapin Along Rhode Island's South Coast," with Dr. Malia Schwartz, URI researcher and sea turtle specialist. Diamondback terrapins are listed as endangered in Rhode Island, where until recently they were known only from one population in Barrington. Learn more about this elusive turtle, how new discoveries along Rhode Island's South Shore are changing the way we think about the species, and what you can do to help protect it.

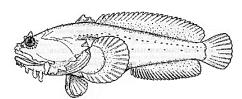


The Friends of the National Wildlife Refuges of Rhode Island is a volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing conservation, education, and outreach activities on the five National Wildlife Refuges in our state. All donations to the Friends are tax-deductible.

**July 22nd (Sachuest)**: "Sampling the Moth Community at Sachuest Point," with Dr. David Gregg, Executive Director of the R.I. Natural History Survey and life-long enthusiast for all things with way too many legs. This presentation will be a departure from our usual lecture format. After a short talk about Rhode Island's moths and how one goes about studying them, we'll move outside, set up a light trap, and spend some time observing



the diversity of moth species that are attracted to the light. Because we're on a National Wildlife Refuge, we will not collect any specimens, but will rely only on photography to document species.



July 29th (Kettle): "Discovery of Sounds in the Sea," with Dr. Kathy Vigness-Raposa, a Senior Research Scientist with Marine Acoustics, Inc. in Middletown and one of the creators of the DOSITS website for the URI Graduate School of Oceanography. She will introduce everyone to the amazing variety of underwater sounds produced by marine creatures—whales, dolphins, seals,

fishes, and shrimp; as well as other natural phenomena and humans.

**August 5th (Kettle):** "Ocean Frontiers I: The Dawn of a New Era in Ocean Stewardship." This award-winning video from Green Fire Productions takes an inspiring voyage to coral reefs, seaports, and watersheds across the country, where unlikely allies—farmers, shippers, scientists, fishermen, and conservationists—are working together to sustain the sea and our ocean economies.



August 12th (Kettle): "Ocean Frontiers II: A New England Story for Sustaining the Sea." The second video focuses more closely on our own region. In a pioneering trial of far-sighted planning—pushed by blueprints for offshore wind energy—old residents and new are coming together to keep their ocean and livelihoods alive.

**August 19th (Sachuest):** "Black Bears of Maine," with Dr. Gerry Krausse, a professor emeritus from the URI Dept. of Marine Affairs and a consummately skilled videographer and photographer. We all know his videos from the Rhode Island refuges. Gerry will share another of his ongoing video projects that he has been working on for years, on Maine's black bears—including behavior, management, den visits, and research.



**August 26th (Kettle):** Open. What would you like to hear more about?

*Wildlife Wednesdays* presentations, returning for our 9th year after taking last summer off, will take place every Wednesday from June 17 through August 19 (or 26), at 7:00 PM, at one of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Visitor Centers:

- ► Kettle Pond, 50 Bend Road, Charlestown, Rhode Island
- ► Sachuest Point, 769 Sachuest Point Road, Middletown, Rhode Island

Admission is free. For additional information visit us on Facebook, check our web page at http://www.FriendsNWRofRI.org, or contact Bob Kenney (friends.ri@verizon.net, 401-874-6664) or Sarah Griffith (Sarah\_Griffith@fws.gov, 401-847-5511 ext. 203).